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HUNGARIAN PORTRAIT OF W. F. RABORN

[Note: The following is a full translation of an article by Denes Polgar which appeared in the 4 May 1965 issue of Tukor, Budapest, page 13.]

On 11 April, Washington political circles were surprised by Johnson's announcement that William Francis Raborn had taken over the leadership of the American Central Intelligence Office, the infamous spy organization, the CIA.

Raborn is now 59 years old. In 1963, with the rank of vice admiral, he retired from the American Navy. He was born in Texas and according to some opinions this is why the Texan Johnson selected him.

Raborn served in the navy since the age of 18 years. He began as a pilot and then received increasingly more important assignments. His name became well-known when he was intrusted with leadership of the navy unit called the "Office of Special Tasks." In this position he guided those scientists and engineers who designed the Polaris rockets which are launched from submarines. Two years ago, after his retirement, in a fashion characteristic of American circumstances, he became administrative vice president of the Aero-Jet General Corporation aircraft factory in California.

At first glance, the career thus far of the retired vice admiral does not explain very well why he was chosen by Johnson to lead the complex organization of the CIA which extends throughout the entire world. Probably the cause for this should be sought in those contradictions which arise from time to time between the CIA, the White House, the Pentagon, and the American Foreign Ministry.

As is well-known, the United States master spy Allen Dulles organized the CIA in 1947. During the second world war, he led an important American intelligence agency in Switzerland. Washington evaluated his activity so highly that he was entrusted with the unification of all American intelligence and counterintelligence spy organizations. Later, the CIA established by Dulles became one of the chief tools of the imperialist cold war policy following the second world war and a base for the extreme reactionary circles of the United States. In addition to espionage, it engaged in international subversive activity and can be praised for such

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"successes" as, for example, the fall of Premier Mosadegh who was nationalizing the Iranian oil wells and the overthrow of the democratic government of Guatemala. Probably Dulles would still be director of CIA if it had not been for the fiasco-like failure of the Cuban invasion attempt in 1961. The consequences of this were so serious that Kennedy was forced to make Allen Dulles resign. (In any case, it is no secret that Dulles continues to influence the work of the CIA.)

It should be known that the CIA does not have to account for its expenditures, it can name its department chiefs without congressional approval, and the senate subcommittee formed to supervise it has not succeeded in penetrating its affairs. Under such circumstances, this espionage and subversion organization has sometimes carried out important political actions without directly informing the White House or the Foreign Ministry in various foreign countries and thus has frustrated foreign policy actions of the government which were reactionary and aggressive in any case.

With the removal of Dulles and with the appointment of his successor, John A. McCone, the well-known large industrialist, Kennedy wanted to bring the CIA under closer control. It would appear that this did not succeed. US News and World Report, citing circles close to the White House, recently wrote: "Johnson was disturbed by the fact that the leaders of the CIA were too independent, secretive, and professional. On several occasions, the CIA rejected the ideas and directives of the White House or simply ignored them."

Thus it can be supposed that Johnson sought a leader who was sufficiently hard-handed and intelligent to keep the lower leaders of the CIA in hand and who would always follow exactly the political ideas of the President and the ruling regime. William Francis Raborn is known to be such a man.